

Public Notice

In reply refer to:

Issuance Date:

Public Notice No. 199600386-1

July 31, 2004

Stream:

Expiration Date:

Buckeye Lake

August 30, 2004

Address comments to:

US Army Corps of Engineers, Huntington District

502 Eighth Street ATTN: CELRH-F

Huntington, West Virginia 25701-2070

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: The following application has been submitted for a Department of the Army Permit under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. This notice serves as the Corps of Engineers' request to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to act on Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the following application:

APPLICANT: Daniel L. West

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Division of Parks and Recreation National Forest

1952 Belcher Drive – Building C-3

Columbus, Ohio 43224

LOCATION: The project is located in Buckeye Lake at Onion Island near Millersport, Fairfield County, Ohio.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK: The applicant has requested authorization to modify an existing maintenance dredging and in-stream disposal permit issued at this location. The original permit for this proposal was issued in September 1996 and authorized the in-lake disposal of approximately 147,000 cubic yards of dredged material at two dredge material relocation areas (DMRAs) within Buckeye Lake. The permit was issued for ten years and expires on December 31, 2006. DMRA #1 is located along the shore of the West Bay area and is approximately 2.9 acres in size. DMRA #3 is located along a small island immediately east of Leibs Island and is approximately 1.9 acres in size.

The applicant has requested authorization to relocate DMRA #3 from its current location to an area west of Onion Island. Onion Island is currently experiencing significant erosion from wind and wave action. Relocation of the DMRA to the west and northwest side of the island would help to protect the island and its existing wetland from erosion while also creating valuable wetland habitat for wildlife. The new DMRA would increase in size from its currently authorized 1.9 acres to 4.5 acres.

To create the new DMRA, approximately 14,700 cubic yards of dredged material would be placed at a depth of approximately 2' in a semi-circle along the northwest and western boundary of Onion Island. A dike constructed from the dredged material, measuring 6' in height, 30' wide at the base, 5' wide at the top and 1713' long, would be constructed along the outside edge of the DMRA. The excavated material would be placed between the dike and the existing island. It is anticipated a wetland would develop within the DMRA. The wetland would be allowed to revegetate from the existing seed bank within the excavated material and in the adjacent wetlands

located at the island. Openings would be created in the dike to allow water from the lake to inundate the wetland area. The applicant has indicated the sideslopes of the dike would not be protected with rock channel protection or vegetation at this time.

Plans of the proposed work are attached to this notice.

HISTORIC AND CULTURAL RESOURCES: The National Register of Historic Places has been consulted and it has been determined that there are no known properties listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places within the project area. A copy of this public notice will be furnished to the Ohio State Historic Preservation Office for their review. Comments concerning archeological sensitivity of a project area should be based upon collected data.

ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES: The project is located within the known or historic range of the following endangered species:

Indiana bat
Clubshell mussel
Bald eagle
Eastern massasauga

The Huntington District has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project is not likely to affect the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of habitat of such species which has been determined to be critical. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed to be listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1972 (as amended).

PUBLIC INTEREST REVIEW AND COMMENTS: Any person who has an interest that may be adversely affected by the issuance of a permit may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer on or before the expiration date of this notice and must clearly set forth the interest which may be adversely affected and the manner in which the interest may be adversely affected by the activity.

Interested parties are invited to state any objections they may have to the proposed work. The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its

reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, the evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act. Written statements on these factors received in this office on or before the expiration date of this public notice will become a part of the record and will be considered in the final determination. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

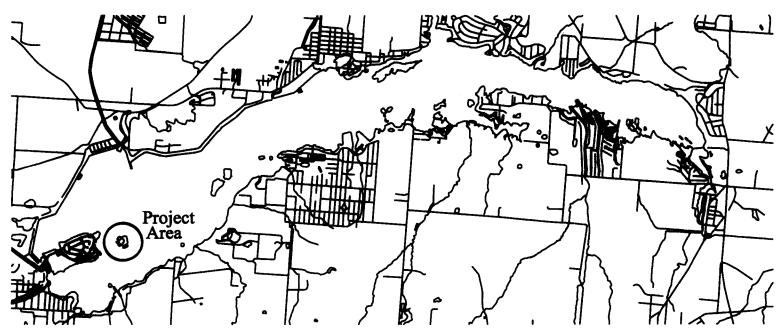
If you have any questions concerning this public notice, please contact Kimberly Courts-Brown at (304) 399-5210.

Mark a Saylor Ginger Mullins, Chief Regulatory Branch

(O)

Buckeye Lake State Park **Location Map**





Onion Island

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

NORTH

Proposed Activity: Maintenance Dredge

Waterway: Buckeye Lake State Park

Address: 2905 Liebs Island Road, P.O. Box 488 Millersport, OH 43046 County: Fairfield

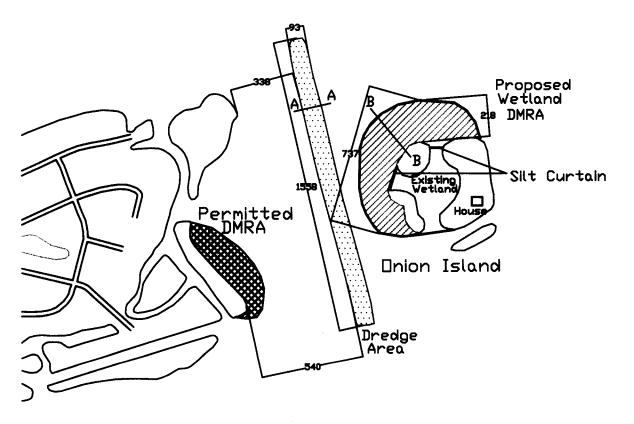
Date: December 2003

1 of 3

Buckeye Lake

Proposed Modification
In-Lake DMRA Area/Wetland is 4.5 acres
2' = 14,709 cubic yards.
Wetland Mitigation factor is 1.5x
DMRA/Wetland dike will be approx. 1713' @ 1.2 acres.

Dredge Area is 3.5 acres @ 2'-3' = 11,196 cubic yards.





Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Scale: 1"= 500'



Proposed Activity: Maintenance Dredge

Waterway: Buckeye Lake State Park

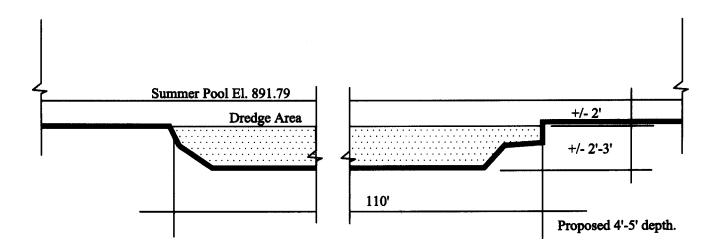
Address: 2905 Liebs Island Road, P.O. Box 488

County: Fairfield Millersport, OH 43046

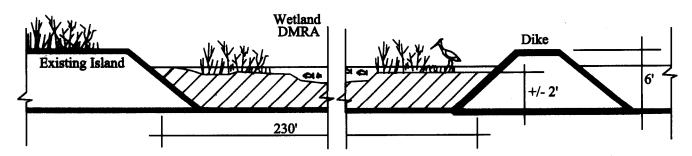
Date: December 2003

2 of 3

Dredge Area Section A-A



Wetland Creation In-Lake Relocation Area Section B-B



Note: The dike will have openings created after the project is completed to allow water transfer from the lake to the wetland.

Ohio Department of Natural Resources Proposed Activity

Proposed Activity: <u>Maintenance Dredge</u>

Waterway: Buckeye Lake State Park

Address: 2905 Liebs Island Rd., P.O. Box 488

County: Fairfield Millersport, OH 43046

Date: December 2003

Scale: NTS

3 of 3